

THE GUILFORD GAZETTE



Volume 27 No.2 May 2021 Issue

Take a Chance and Send a Kid to Camp

BY LYNN GREEN

Summertime and the living is—well, if you're a kid and you live in Guilford—just wonderful. You get to go to a variety of camps at the library—for free! And even if you don't live in Guilford, camp is only \$50 a week for a full day and \$25 for a half day.

The old saying that "pictures speak louder than words" really illustrates the story of the past ten years of fun and exciting summers at the Guilford Free Library.

Kids from Kindergarten through eighth grade get to spend time with each other and play and learn in the beautiful countryside surrounding the library. Even a pandemic couldn't stop the dedicated library and camp staff and volunteers: last summer all activities were held completely outside with strict protocols.

The camps have operated with the generous support of neighbors and friends far and wide. Now it's our opportunity to once again step up to help make summer camp possible. The 11th annual "Send a Kid to Camp Raffle" is in full swing. For just \$10 a ticket you have a chance to win a great prize: A collection of gift certificates valued at \$200 to The Guilford Country Store, Hazel, India Masala House, and Three Stones.

This year the library is opting to sell only virtual tickets which may be purchased through the Guilford Free Library's website, https://www.guilfordfreelibraryvt. org, by contacting a trustee or Friend of Library, or by calling (802) 257-4603. A drawing for the lucky winner will be held at the library on May 22nd.

More Camp photos on page 22



Having fun at summer camp

Guilford Free Library Camp Schedule 2021

Soccer at the Library

With Peter Welch, Maggie Foley and other soccer lovers. July 19-23, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM for grades 5-8. No soccer experience required. Shin guards required, cleats and bringing your own soccer ball encouraged.

Nature's Story

With Andy Loughney. July 26-30 from 9 AM-12:30 PM, for children who have completed grades 2-5.

Stage and Stream

With Maia Gilmour. Children need to bring lunch.

August 9-13 from 9 AM-3:30 PM, for children who have completed grades 5-8.

Folk and Fairy Tales

With Emma Hallowell.

August 16-20 from 9 AM-12:30 PM, for children who have completed grades K-3.

Each camp begins and ends at the library. There is no charge for any Guilford child, but a minimal charge will be made for a child who lives out of town. Breakfast and a generous snack will be provided. Transportation will be provided by Library trustees for any child who needs it in order to attend.

Call 257-4603 or email staff@guilfordfreelibraryvt.org for more information and to register.

The Guilford Gazette

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The Guilford Gazette is happy to print photos and articles submitted by the public. Please be aware that the Gazette staff cannot be responsible for photographs and names printed without the permission of participants. It is the responsibility of the writers and photographers to make sure they have permission to print.

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The Guilford Gazette is an all-volunteer newspaper that comes out four times a year. That's a big commitment for the four or five regulars on the staff, who take care of editing, production, advertising, printing and mailing it to every Guilford household. Here's how you can help:

- Prepare the printed newspaper for mailing by helping us with labels. If enough people show up, this only takes a few hours and it's a chance to socialize and get a sneak preview of the paper! Contact Cathi Wilken at the library [257-4603] to find out how you can help.
- Send in articles. This is a chance to let us know what your group, organization or business is doing in Guilford! Or perhaps you'd like to share a reminiscence, poem, or story with your fellow Guilfordites. Just limit your entry to no more than 600 words if you are sending a photograph with your article, or 650 words without a photograph. You can submit articles to the Gazette by email to gazette@guilfordfree.org, or you can send a printed copy to Susan Bonthron (108 S. Belden Hill Rd., Guilford, VT 05301), or Gazette c/o Guilford Free Library (4024 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford, VT 05301). Please DO pay attention to deadlines!
- Join our staff. If you have an interest in becoming a staff member who can help with editing, advertising or production, we'd love you to join us at our "second Thursday of the month" meetings at 9AM by Zoom (email for link) or, when possible, at the Guilford Country Store. Meetings start on time and last no more than one hour.
- **Donate**. The Gazette always welcomes donations of any size. They help pay for postage and printing. Checks made out to The Guilford Gazette should be sent to Guilford Free Library, 4024 Guilford Center Road, Guilford, 05301.

Thanks in advance for your help in keeping our town newspaper alive and thriving!



Offering American, Israeli and Palestinian Youth the Opportunity to Become One Family



Guilford's Margery Evans

BY DAN BRUSH

Margery Clark Evans, 103, died peacefully on March 1, 2021 at Pine Heights Nursing Home in Brattleboro. Margery was born at the Springs Farm in Guilford, Vermont on July 20, 1917. Her parents were Merton and Maude Clark. Margery was predeceased by her sisters, Elizabeth Clark Newton and Barbara Clark Dauphin, along with her brothers, Kenneth, Rodney, and John Clark. Margery was predeceased by her husband, Emery Evans, in 2005.

Margery graduated from Brattleboro High School in 1936. She married Emery Evans in 1942 and they resided at the Evans Farm on Guilford Center Road for the rest of their lives. Margery often recalled one story of Emery Evans, who was the love of her life. She remembers when she and many friends were all skating on the Evans Pond across the street from Evans' farm in Guildford and were "doing the whip." Margery was on the end of the "whip," flew off, and fell down on the ice. At that moment, Emery skated over, picked her up, and kissed her on the lips. It was that wonderful moment when she knew Emery was interested in her, and the Evans Farm would soon be her lifetime home.

As part of their lives together, Emery and Margery took many trips, including journeys to Nova Scotia, to New York City to the World's Fair and many other places. They never stopped being in love. The Evans were friends to all in Guilford and were active members of the community. In the

1960s and 1970s, she and Emery became good and stalwart friends with all the young people who moved into town and formed the Packers Corner's commune and Total Loss Farm.

Margery was a fabulous baker and she loved to sew. Her favorite time of the year was Thanksgiving because she



Margery Evans

loved cooking and seeing everyone. She made everyone's favorite pie at Thanksgiving and, since everyone had different "favorites," this meant making up to eight or nine different types of pies. Oftentimes, Margery would reminisce fondly about the Clark Family Reunion and Potluck that her sister Elizabeth and husband Harold would have each year. This family event became so large that, at one point, the reunions were held at the Kiwanis Park in Vernon.

In her later years, Margery loved to be

visited by her many friends and family and would share her life-time of stories—from the time her father's new car (the first one in Guilford) fell through the barn floor, to stories of her brother Kenneth bending wooden boards into skis over the sugaring arch so he could navigate the local ski jump (of course, his bindings were made of mason jar rubbers!)

Emery and Margery prospered at the family farm together for many decades, raising their three children, Marcia (husband Henry Kempf), Chester (wife Pam), and Charles. They also raised two of their beloved grandchildren, Tami Evans Napolitano and Ronald Evans. Their son Chester had five children: Tami Evans Napolitano (husband Anthony Napolitano), Ronald Evans, Chad Evans (son Kyle Evans), Jason Evans (daughter Malana Evans) and Nicole Evans (daughter Aliza Mahoney). Marcia Evans Kempf had one son Daniel L. Brush (wife Maureen Hall) with three more grandchildren: Aurora, Emery, and Alex Brush.

MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Graveside services were conducted Saturday, May 1, at 11 a.m. in Christ Church Cemetery. A memorial service in celebration of her life will be held Tuesday, July 20, at 3 p.m., in Guilford Community Church. Due to the pandemic, masks and social distancing are required. To share a memory or send condolences to the family, visit atamaniuk.com.



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Finding the Boundary

BY JEANINE B. FROST

I first met the 6th grade class at Guilford Central School via Zoom on a Tuesday in mid-March. As a new resident in town, meeting this energetic and motivated group of students gave me great comfort and hope for our next generation. Masked, they excitedly told me about their spring project: surveying and mapping the school property to determine its boundary, which became a kind of detective work, "a mystery" as they describe it.

Back in early February Sarah Rosow, the GCS Farm to School Coordinator, Adrienne LaPierre, tech integrationist with classroom teacher Amy Skolnick, engaged the students in a Geography lesson, slowly zooming in from the world to the US, to Vermont, ending in Guilford. They were all asked to map their favorite place in town, their house, and the school. A conversation ensued about the destruction of the original school property map in a small boiler room fire in 2003 that spread to the adjoining maintenance room where the map was kept. This left





Elizabeth "Lizzie" LaClair & Charlie O'Connell measuring the southwwest border of GCS. Photo by Jeanine B. Frost

the 6th grade class wondering where they were legally allowed to roam on the wooded areas bordering the 14 acres of school land on three sides.

The expansion of outdoor learning at GCS this year, a silver lining of the Covid-19 pandemic, was a longtime wish turned reality. Knowing where school boundaries are has become increasingly important, says Principal John Gagnon, as we "continue to develop our nature programming." The students spend 50 percent of learning time outside, with impressive individual grade level classrooms built by volunteers after a successful fundraising campaign in the spring/ summer of 2020. The 6th graders proposed they help find the property line; with their teachers and Mr. Gagnon in full support, a curriculum was created to blueprint the project. After weeks of postponement due to snow days, the kids set out in the beginning of March to inspect the woods surrounding the school. Local surveyor Erik Feindel gave them guidance on what markers might help their quest to determine the line separating the school property from the neighboring lots. The school deed provided little detail on the property itself, but with help from Mr. Feindel they scoured neighboring deeds for measurements, making an approximate determination of the borders on all four sides.

The school deed brought the kids back in time to 1954 when former owner Herman A. Ashworth sold the grounds to the Town School District of Guilford for \$2000, after which the town raised taxes 3% to fund the construction of the Guilford Central School. In Winter 1957, a public bid was announced and the O'Bryan Construction Co. broke ground on the building on April 25, with the lowest bid of \$141,000. The school opened on September 9th, seven

What's Happening with Neighborhood Roots?

BY JULIE BEET, JODY HAUSER, AND ANNA KLEIN

After a winter spent slogging through the required paperwork, Neighborhood Roots Food Collective welcomed the spring season ready and excited to become an official nonprofit organization. Now we're looking forward to the more enjoyable work of connecting with our neighbors and local farmers to strengthen our Guilford food system.

The Spring Plant & Seed Swap recently took place at the Fairgrounds and featured a seed-saving workshop by Toni Kessler, owner/grower at West River Seeds. Toni is planning to come back in the fall to present part two of her workshop at the Harvest Swap event. These Swap events are a really fun way for neighbors to connect, and everyone comes away with a variety of wonderful homemade and homegrown goodies.



Neighborhood Roots is also helping to build a network of all Guilford gardeners, homesteaders, farmers, and anyone interested in growing their own food and medicine. This is an email list for idea and resource sharing, community garden collaboration, work party organization & many other wonderful possibilities. To sign up, send an email to:guilford-gardens+subscribe@googlegroups.com

The Little Free Pantry project is gearing up and we're looking for folks to join our effort to build and maintain pantries throughout town. A Little Free Pantry is a wooden structure where people can give or take food. It's secured from wildlife raids and contains non-perishable food items and garden surplus that people can access when they want it and with a sense of privacy. In a time of heightened food insecurity, a Little Free Pantry is one more resource that community members can rely on. If you would like more information on how to host, build, supply materials for, or oversee a Little Free Pantry, please contact Jody Hauser at jody@ neighborhoodroots.org.

Check out neighborhoodroots.org to see what else we're working on.

Finding the Boundary, continued

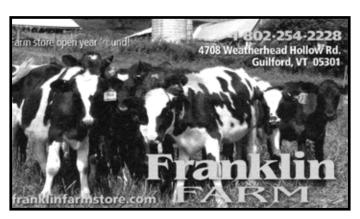
weeks ahead of schedule to great praise by the school board for their speed and craftsmanship.

I joined the 6th graders, equipped with construction sized measuring tape, a GPS, a metal detector, and glow tape, when they set out in three groups, each with a color-coded map referring to the approximate area of the property they were responsible for measuring and marking. They looked for existing

stakes and tape, barbed wire, and stone walls, measuring their paces and flagging the trees along the reconstructed boundary with tape. The graduates are also hoping to help determine a new Nature Trail through the woods after the old one was closed back in 2005. It might be worth considering letting them name the trail. Ms. Rosow imagines this mapping project will become a working document for years to come, expanding to a guide for the land to include the outdoor classroom sites, tree

types, maples for tapping, flora and fauna, and potentially adding detail on soil types and their effect on plant growth.

By mid-April, this dynamic bunch of 6th graders will have determined the legal borders of the school land they are set to cross one final time in a few months, graduating from GCS having left a lasting legacy. "Going out like bosses", is the exact phrase they used. I have no doubt they will.





How's Your Internet?

BY ZON EASTES, GUILFORD SELECTBOARD MEMBER

Think of it. The Deerfield Valley Communications Union District (DVCUD) was established by five towns in April 2020. In the span of just one year, 21 towns banded together, a governing board established three all-volunteer working committees, and nearly 60 people in three counties work at breakneck speed—all to secure broadband access for every residence and business in the district.

In the last *Gazette*, I very briefly described the ongoing expansion of the district, as well as some of the distinguishing features between DVCUD and DVFiber, whose values are equity, performance, affordability, reliability, and privacy.

The Chicken and the Egg

"We cannot build an infrastructure without major investment, and it's extremely difficult to secure initial funding without a proven track record." That's Ann Manwaring, chair of DVFiber, musing on the conundrum facing all start-ups in Vermont. Multiple complicated issues must be addressed simultaneously, especially around the goal of serving all residences and businesses to the last mile. DVFiber is not alone: This puzzle of how to obtain initial investment offers the most strenuous challenge to all of Vermont's CUDs.



Help may well be on the way. Thanks to the ardent leadership of the House Committee on Energy and Technology (and the heroic efforts of its Vice Chair Rep. Laura Sibilia, from DVFiber's district) it seems that significant funding is likely to move from the federal government to the state and on to CUDs, through the American Rescue Plan, the latest round of COVID-19 assistance from Washington, DC.

In the state legislature, the House has advanced H.360, a sweeping bill intended to support the groundwork of Vermont's CUDs. "We need a paradigm shift in order to build broadband to the last mile in Vermont. This bill intends to provide coordination, to require accountability, and to focus on universal service, not just connectivity to the most profitable customers," said Rep. Sibilia. The bill calls for significant investment

in the state's CUDs and for the establishment of appropriate infrastructure to oversee development and support. While specific funding details were not available at press time, there can be no question about the intent of this legislation and the support behind it.

What's the latest news?

Three important developments:

1. Though DVCUD's expansion has slowed a bit, Winhall was recently welcomed into the district. DVCUD now encom-

passes 21 towns in Windham, Bennington, and Windsor counties. To get a sense of the reach of all nine CUDs in Vermont, visit the statewide map at https://publicservice.vermont.gov/sites/dps/files/documents/CUDs_v2_March24.pdf.

This map reveals which towns are currently working in a communications union district, as well as which towns are currently unaffiliated. We recently learned that nearly 400 expert volunteers are at work on broadband projects statewide!

2. To reach its goals, DVFiber will soon enter a public/private partnership with an existing Internet service provider. In February, DVFiber announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) from interested potential part-





Guilford Conservation Commission Celebrates Trees

BY ANNE MONTGOMERY

Every year, Vermont Arbor Day is celebrated on the first Friday of May. The Guilford Conservation Commission has been busy promoting the importance of trees in our community. Recently, the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program awarded the Conservation Commission an Arbor Day Tree Planting Grant.

This project brings together students from Guilford Central School and members of the Guilford Conservation Commission to plant and maintain shade trees on common property between the School and Town Office. Members of the Commission, assisted by our Windham County Forester, Guilford's Tree Warden, and our Farm-to-School



Coordinator, will mentor students in how to plant and maintain trees, while learning about the benefits of trees to our community and ecosystem.

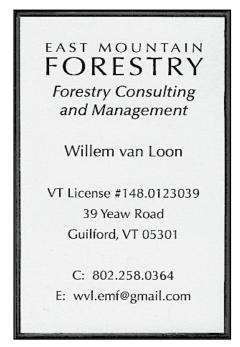
In April, the Conservation Commission was also recognized with the 2021 Vermont Tree Steward Award by the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Council. The committee noted that "your tireless energy and steadfast commitment has been an inspiration to us all" with regard to our various forestry projects such as the Emerald Ash Borer Inventory. We hope you will stop by the Town Office this spring or summer to enjoy the new trees, the school's gardens, and the Tree-Themed Story Walk around the field.

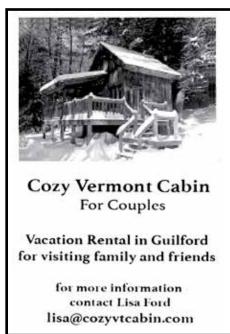
How's Your Internet, continued

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ners. The response deadline was in late March; nearly a dozen companies submitted proposals. DVFiber's governing board, on advice from the Vendor Committee (aka, Operations), will select a partner soon with the intent to begin work this summer.

While there remains much to negotiate, there is strong reason to believe that DVFiber is on a clear path to securing broadband service for all residences and businesses in the district. Patience will be required. (You will hear this repeatedly!)





3. DVFiber recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Southern Vermont Communications District Union (SoVT CUD). You may not know that two towns in DVCUD are also members of SoVT CUD, Londonderry and Winhall. While there are historical and cultural differences between the two districts, the two governing boards determined that working cooperatively and openly will advance the statewide goal of providing last mile broadband technology for all Vermonters.

Intrigued? Want to get involved?

Visit DVFiber's website at dvfiber. net, subscribe to the DVFiber newsletter, like DVFiber on Facebook.

Soon, plenty of work will be required to secure customers for DVFiber right here in Guilford. We will need your help! The district is powered solely by volunteers. Please contact me if would like to get involved. I can be reached at zoneastes@guilfordvt.org or at 802.380.9550.



Congratulations 2021 Guilford Graduates

BY JEANINE FROST

As this novel year in education comes to a close, the Gazette wishes each one of you good fortune on your path ahead.

Guilford Central School 6th Grade Graduates

Isaiah Allen Kali Beam Hailey Bristol Sadie Cheslawski Alexis "Lexi" Downing Leah Filgate

Isaiah Giroux Alexandra "Alex" Johnson

Harley Johnston Natalie Knutson

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Laclair Samadhi "Sam" Mathes

Charlie O'Connell Camden Shepard Macie Tkaczyk Dakota Vonfeldt Kayleigh Whelan Avin Williams

Brattleboro Area Middle School Graduates

Allison McMaster Ackerman-Hovis
Briana C. Brooks
Kali Filgate
Haley Bogert
Dominik Downing
Brianna Ruth Kinley

Emily LaClair Alexandria Lori Lamoureux

Emily Margaret Matthew-Muller Sylvia Moshovetis
Chloe O'Connell Izabel Reilly
Rhiannon Michaela Rivard Rose Willow Stone

Keagan Systo Evan Wright Madison Wright

Brattleboro Union High School Graduates

Abigail Browne Yared Capy-Goldfarb
Samuel Freitas-Eagan Hannah Geno
Gabriel Heiden Katryna Jarvis
Austin Jobin Alexa Kinley
Ian LaBounty Gage Lathe

Spencer Lawrence Jonmichael McManus

Kiera Noble Samuel Poor Joshua Roy David Scott Lacy Slade Terry St. John Jr. Ruby Stone Austin Wood

The Putney School Graduates

Jasmin Beet Daniel Snyder

(Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, there are currently no graduation celebrations planned. But please check with the individual school as restrictions continue to be lifted.)

Deadlines: May 21 -College Scholarships for Guilford Residents

BY DON MCLEAN

Three college scholarship sources are available specifically for Guilford residents. Application deadline for all is May 21.

Broad Brook Grange gives a scholarship to a student from Guilford, and applicants don't have to be Grange members. A Grange committee awards a single scholarship for \$1,000.

Eligibility is specific: The scholarship goes to a BUHS graduating senior planning to attend a 2-or-4 year college or trade school — to which they have been accepted — after graduation, and the applicant must have lived in Guilford for 2 of the past 4 years.

Reflecting the Grange's community mission, although academic accomplishment is important, community service counts for 50% of the weight given the applicant.

Another scholarship for Guilford residents is from the Town of Guilford through the Bullock Educational Scholarship Fund, established as a permanent trust in memory of members of an old Guilford family, administered by a committee appointed by the Selectboard.

One or more scholarships are awarded annually, depending upon number of applications, and are available for Guilford residents attending 2-or-4-year higher learning institutions, including technical school and post-graduate work. First-year and continuing students may apply. \$3,000 is divided among recipients.

A third scholarship source for Guilford residents: The Guilford Recreation Club. The Rec Club owns property adjacent to the Fairground, including the ballfield, tennis courts, cabin, and trails.

Applicants must be BUHS seniors, Guilford residents planning attendance at 2-or-4 year college or trade school for fall semester after BUHS graduation.

Good News and a Request for Help

BY CHRIST CHURCH CEMETERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Here is an update with good news about the Christ Church Cemetery at Route 5 and Melendy Hill Road, where many of you have family members and loved ones buried.

In the past year, the Board of Trustees of the Cemetery has embarked on a preservation project under the expert work of Mark Spiller of Wilmington. This work has included cleaning, repairing, and stabilizing many neglected gravestones, some of them dating back to the early 1700's. Many new finds have been uncovered, and the overall aesthetics of the cemetery have been vastly improved. There are many other tangible benefits to his work, beyond the aesthetics. For example, he found small markers which had gotten completely covered over with grass and virtually lost, and replaced them on their bases and cemented them in. He uncovered other previously obscured information with important history.

The historical value of his work to our town is vast. For example, he cleaned a stone that says, "First white child born in Guilford." Died ca 1868 at age 87, so the child must have been born in approximately 1781. Had anyone noticed this before? This has been a rare opportunity to fix old neglected stones for everyone's benefit. We are lucky to have a

competent and trusted person on hand to do it, and so despite the significant costs, we took the opportunity as current caretakers with a responsibility to future generations.



Christ Church Graveyard

Mr. Spiller has one more section of the cemetery to do, which will be completed this Spring. We invite you to take a look at the cemetery where some of his work is apparent.

This past year we also updated our regulations to include the option for Green Burial, to bring our cemetery in line with a growing movement and in line with the State of Vermont cemetery laws which now include this option. We also have begun a collaboration with

the Guilford Cemetery Commission, so that we may learn from each other's experiences in care-taking cemeteries in our town, and thus will continue to shine a light on the beauty and historical significance of the Christ Church Cemetery.

This work has taken effort and resources. We write not only to inform you of these improvements, but also to ask for your help. Our Board is small and some current members need to step down soon, so we are in need of engaged people who have an interest in guiding the future of the Cemetery. Would you or some others of your family members considering joining our Board? The time commitment is minimal—one or two meetings per year and periodic communications in between—yet there is great satisfaction in helping to make decisions to ensure the continuity of this important cemetery.

Please let us know if you might be willing to help by contacting one of the trustees, listed below.

Thank you.

Christ Church Cemetery Board of Trustees:

Jeff Houghton Laura Lewis Kerri Beebe Barry Aleshnick Kitsie LaRock





Guilford Cares Looks to the Future of "Connectivity"

BY LEAH GESSNER

The more we do, the more we realize how much we participate in the various forms of connectivity taking place in our town. We think about the role of Guilford Cares. We see those ever-present utility trucks stringing those miles of cable intended to increase our connection to the virtual world. Meantime, we see people parked at the BBCC, the library and the Country Store to use their Wi-Fi. It is tangible evidence of how much we invest in and depend upon connectivity to support the quality of life in our little town.

Guilford Cares is simultaneously stringing a network of connections, an invisible network of love and caring. Neighbors freely join our network (no password required) when they need assistance. Each time that occurs, we strengthen that network to better serve the next need. Just in the past few months we have helped Guilford residents find out how to support aging parents and helped find reliable in-home care for a spouse. We provided a hospital bed and many other medical items, assisted in getting appointments for vaccines and installed a help line. We packed supplemental food at the food pantry, shopped, delivered, made nursing calls, and visited homebound folks.

Expressions of appreciation let us know we are serving real needs: "Thanks to all of you who do the work." "I can't thank you enough for

the information"
"The equipment
made the healing so much less
painful" "I am so
grateful for your
help." "This is the
one check I write
every year that
doesn't make me
feel poorer."

We plan to build this network, as we always have, by being accessible, welcoming new volunteers



Linda & Esther shopping

and adding services. Guilford Cares is grateful to the Grange and the BBCC for generously providing a home for over 10 years. But we wonder what it would be like to have a hub to facilitate our work instead of a patchwork of temporary arrangements with limited space and flexibility. Why not have a building dedicated to housing the food pantry, medical equipment inventory, wellness classes, and programs of interest to seniors? No doubt there will be questions and we welcome your ideas and feedback as we explore possibilities.

Continued on next page



Volunteers at Food Pantry (Guilford Fairgrounds)



Diane's Hair Express

404 Canal St. Brattleboro, VT 05301 (802) 258-9039 DIANE WRINN - Owner

Garland Plumbing and Heating, Inc. Guilford, VT 05301 (802) 257-0080

Mark Garland VT PM01856 NH 3030M



Joe Garland VT PM04241 NH 5050M

"10/4/10ers" Jump into Action for the Guilford Cares Food Pantry

BY LYNN GREEN AND BARB LEE

This has been an extraordinary year in many ways, placing demands on all of us we never could have imagined while bringing out the best in us in ways we never could have expected. The Guilford Cares Food Pantry. going on its twelfth year of providing groceries to our own and surrounding communities, has played a critical role during this great time of need. It is supported by a variety of state agencies, local businesses and individuals. But during this past year, in an increasingly challenging time for many many more of us, a greater number of people have stepped up in a new way to assist their neighbors.

In October 2020 we realized that during one of the darkest times of many of our lives, although assistance came from federal and state governments, people were still going hungry. We became very concerned about our local community and the effect that the closing of businesses and schools was having on the residents of our towns. Supporting the Food Pantry seemed like a very

Guilford Cares, continued

We promise to share responses with you in the next Gazette issue, so stay tuned! guilfordcaresvt@gmail. com, www.guilfordcarescom, P.O. Box 2517, Brattleboro, VT 05303, 802-579-1350.

immediate way to help individuals and families. We wanted to reach out to other people to join us and give them a way to help that would be convenient for them and have an almost immediate impact. Our goal was to consistently support the health and wellbeing of our communities. We contacted Pat Haine, Director of the Guilford Food Pantry, to see if we could assist in putting food on the shelves.

That's when the 10/4/10ers jumped into action. The name comes from two sources: the donation is \$10 per family or individual each month; and we seek out all the best grocery sales, like the "10-for-10" deals in the supermarkets. Word spread quickly among friends and family and within a few weeks we had our first members—from Guilford, Brattleboro, Newfane, and Townshend, to Massachusetts and Florida. We now have 14 individuals and families participating and have raised (as of April) over \$1,000. The 10/4/10ers have helped stock the shelves with a variety of soups and pasta items, an assortment of fresh produce and canned vegetables, breakfast sausages, eggs, bread, and toilet paper. In addition, at Christmas, Susan Rosano donated beautiful handmade ornaments; a separate donation enabled us to supply families with Easter gingerbread kits.

"I can't tell you how grateful we are for the generosity of this group of people that I refer to as 'angels' who bring us groceries once or twice a month," Pat said. "They follow our shopping list, which makes it so much easier for us because we can keep track of what we have. It is just a blessing to us and we are grateful."

The Pantry operated out of the Broad Book Grange, now the Broad Brook Community Center, for many years. It is currently located in the First Aid building at the Guilford Fairgrounds on Weatherhead Hollow Road, and is open on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Anyone wishing to donate to the 10/4/10ers can do so by contacting Barb Lee at starrain04@gmail.com, by phone at 802-257-5026, or by sending donations (made out to Barb Lee) directly to 1598 Lee Road, Guilford, VT 05301. Lynn Green can be contacted at lrsgreen14@gmail.com, by phone at 802-258-4833, or by mail at 1515 Lee Road, Guilford, VT 05301. You will receive a monthly update to let you know what has been purchased.

The Pantry welcomes all who are in need of supplemental food assistance. The shelves are well stocked and volunteers look forward to seeing you at the Fairgrounds. For further information about the Pantry please contact Pat Haine at pth1946@yahoo.com or 802-257-0626.



Blueberry Haus Homemade Ice Cream ~ U-pick Blueberries & Gift Shop Now in two locations: Guilford, VT Downtown Brattleboro 809 Guilford Center RD 19 Elliot Street (We are open for the Season) Open Daily 12-6, Fri & Sat 12-8

Building Back Better

BY SARA COFFEY

Before entering the legislature, I worked for nearly three decades in

the performing arts field as a producer and organizer. I loved how my work in the arts both broadened my horizons and deepened my roots in my community. The work required deep listening, persistence, and collaboration I have found that these skillsalong with curiosity, creative thinking and a love of people—are also key to work in the legislature.

This pandemic has called for new thinking and bold action to address the gaps and inequities in our system and build back better. During this session in the House we have passed substantial bills to transform childcare, modernize our

transportation system and accelerate the buildout of rural broadband.

From my work in the arts I have seen how the creative economy can be harnessed to revitalize both urban and rural communities across the country. Since last summer, I have been working with cultural leaders, Vermont-based funders, and community development folks to develop the Better Places Program. This would



Sara Coffey at the State Capital

make smart use of our state's resources, would support community innovation, and would come at a time when our downtowns and villages are ready and eager to rebuild.

At its core "placemaking" must be genuinely rooted in public participation. Making a place is not simply constructing a park, designing a plaza, repurposing an alleyway, or creating a commercial zone. When people

of all ages, abilities, and socio-economic backgrounds can not only access and enjoy a place, but also play a key role in its identity, creation, and maintenance. that is when we see genuine placemaking in action. I believe that incentivizing and supporting placemaking activity will be critical to our economic recovery and community revitalization as we emerge from this pandemic, and for this reason I introduced legislation for the Better Places Program.

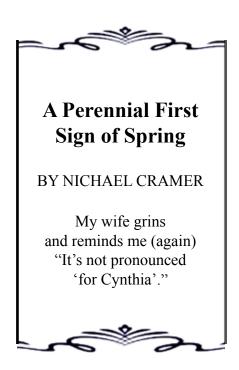
Vermont's economic prosperity and vitality is also dependent upon its ability to attract and retain consumers, entrepreneurs,

and venture capitalists of color to the Green Mountains. The Vermont Partnership for Fairness and Diversity has been focused on economic and business development for nearly 20 years, and in December 2020 issued a report of its survey to BI-POC (Black, Indigenous, People of





GHS ZOOMS BACK TO THE 20TH CENTURY



BY VERANDAH PORCHE

To a virtual standing-room-only crowd, the Guilford Historical Society presented "The Construction of Route 91 and its Impact on Guilford", a community conversation with Jim Henry, Harry Evans, and Jackie and Bob Gaines, on April 13th. Chuck Collins organized and served as technical advisor for the event, and Verandah Porche hosted. One hundred residents. neighbors, relatives, and strangers attended, with others turned away when Zoom reached its capacity. After an hour-and-a half of thoughtful recollections and questions, Jim Henry capped the evening with the tale of his mother taking the children out for spin in her new Pontiac sedan, to see what it could do. With no seatbelts or airbags, his mom and the two kids in the front seat reached 100 miles per hour on the empty interstate, the day before cut the ribbon was officially cut!

Luckily, a recording will soon be available. GHS will build on this success with future community conversations. The next topic will be one-room schoolhouses. Check out their website to get involved (https://www.guilfordhistorical.org/index.html) and keep an eye on Front Porch Forum for announcements.

Building Back better, continued

Color) business owners and thought leaders. The findings revealed that we are lacking infrastructure for BIPOC-owned businesses. I was pleased to have the opportunity to work with Curtiss Reed of the Vermont Partnership to develop legislation (H.336) to create much needed infrastructure to provide technical assistance, networking, and support to strengthen, grow and attract BI-POC-owned businesses in Vermont. I am pleased to share that the Better

I am pleased to share that the Better Places bill became the omnibus economic recovery bill and it passed out of the House with strong support. The legislation included a \$5 million appropriation and funding for a contractor to convene BIPOC businesses, organizations, and community leaders to create a set of recommendations on how to support BIPOC business development, which may include the creation of a BIPOC business network, the creation of minority business development center or authority, or one or more other similar entities or organizations.

Whether it's my work as Vice Chair of my committee, as Co-Chair of the Women's Legislative Caucus, or as a member of the Vermont Assembly, I place people at the center and bring commitment to creating an equitable

Vermont where everyone has access to opportunity and where everyone is welcome and can thrive.

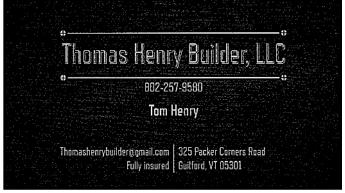
It continues to be an honor to serve the people Guilford and Vernon. If you wish to receive my monthly newsletters or need assistance or have thoughts about the issues we are debating, please don't hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, take good care and stay safe!

Sara Coffey, State Representative for Guilford & Vernon

e-mail: SCoffey@leg.state.vt.us

phone: 802-257-0288 www.saracoffeyvt.com

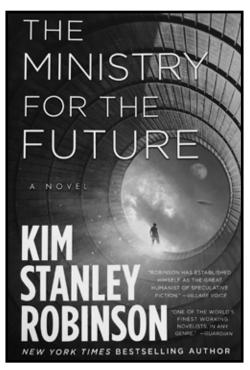




KSR's Ministry for the Future: A Book Review

BY SUSAN BONTHRON

Feeling doomed by humanity's inability to grasp the global climate crisis and act together to avert its worst effects? You are not alone. For years I have hungered after books that did more than paint pictures of a post-apocalyptic world, that created instead a vision of the future worth fighting for. One of the many wonderful attributes of Kim Stanley Robinson's science fiction novel *Ministry for the Future* is that it not only examines the harsh reality of impending climate change but also describes



how we can fix it and what the world could begin to look like if we do. There are no rosy spectacles here. Robinson doesn't try to duck the complexity of the problem or the near impossibility of rectifying it.

The novel begins in the near future with apocalypse: a heat wave in Uttar Pradesh, India so devastating that it kills 20 million people. Its lone survivor is an American volunteer in a local clinic, Frank May. Driven nearly mad by guilt and helpless rage, he embodies the pain and frustration of all the

victims the climate crisis has created. He bears not only the survivor's guilt, but the guilt of his American heritage. "You did this," says a thief, pointing a gun at him while stealing the clinic's air conditioner and generator—the last ones still working in the town

Frank's story is intertwined with that of Mary Murphy, an Irish woman who heads the "Ministry for the Future"—a body formed to "advocate for the world's future citizens... and charged with defending all living creatures present and future who cannot speak for themselves, by promoting their legal standing and physical protection. (Zurich, Switzerland, January 2025.)" She has allies, other members of the ministry who oversee and work toward different

aspects of recovery—financial, legal, geophysical—from many countries around the globe. The unassuming Mary is powerful simply because she listens, and she's not afraid of facing the truth or helping other people to face it.

Mary's story and Frank's each drive the novel forward, but there are many other stories as well, some of which we get only a glimpse of—a doctor's family suddenly forced to migrate through no fault of his own, for example—which, because it's told in first person, forces the reader to understand what it's like to be torn from your home, roots, friends and shoved into an unfriendly world that is not necessarily going to help you or care.

Point of view is a tool that Robinson uses freely throughout the novel. Sometimes a chapter will be a riddle the reader has to solve, a voice speaking in first person that might be the sun, or the earth, or someone taking notes at a meeting. This technique can be dizzying at first, but it allows the author to "go at" the gigantic problem at the core of the novel from every possible angle, and helps the reader begin to grasp both the immensity of climate change and the individual and group actions that are essential to address

Continued on next page

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Three Haiku Now That Spring is Here

BY NICHAEL CRAMER

An hour 'til dawn looking up to a thousand fading suns New sprouts, sweet herbs, wrapped in this clear paper of ice spring rolls together Breezy day—
the iris at my window
nods

Rhubarb Chutney

BY WANDA ATOMANUK

3 cups chopped rhubarb (fresh or frozen)

1 cup packed brown sugar

1 cup white balsamic vinegar

1 cup finely chopped onion

³/₄ cup golden raisins

1 TB Worcestershire sauce

2 tsp minced fresh gingerroot

1 tsp salt

³/₄ tsp curry powder

½ tsp ground nutmeg

2 medium pears, peeled and diced

2 TB minced fresh mint

Combine all but pears and mint. Cook and stir until mixture comes to a boil. Reduce heat: simmer uncovered for 25-30 minutes or until rhubarb is tender, stirring occasionally.

Add pears. Simmer uncovered 10-15 minutes longer or until pears are tender. Cool to room temperature. Stir in mint. Transfer to container and refrigerate for at least 6 hours before serving.

Yields 4 cups.



Fire Department Statistics

January:

11 fire

10 medical calls

4 mutual aid

February:

6 fire

2 medical calls

1 mutual aid

March:

8 fire

13 medical calls

2 mutual aid

Ministry for the Future, continued

it successfully. Along the way, Robinson mentions dozens of groups that currently exist and are working towards the goal of mitigating climate change and creating a fairer, more equitable future for both humans and the more-than-human world. It was fun to look them up and discover they

do exist and find out what and how they are doing.

It's complicated! No way to duck that. But somehow Robinson pulls it all together in an exhilarating, terrifying, ultimately deeply satisfying novel. There is hope! But we must act now. Read it!

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Egg Hunt at Springs Farm

BY GUILFORD RECREATION COMMISSION

The Guilford Recreation Commission sponsored a Guilford Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3rd at the Springs Farm on Carpenter Hill Road in Guilford. Many thanks to Chuck and Mary Wallace Collins for sharing their wonderful property with the community for this event!

Many community members generously donated plastic eggs and candy/toys which were stuffed into the eggs. 1,856 eggs were stuffed and

hid on the sunny hillside at the Springs Farm. The children up to age six enjoyed gathering the eggs that were scattered amongst the grass, while the children ages seven and up were challenged to find their eggs amongst the bushes and trees on the more challenging terrain.

The children were provided with Covid safe activities during the event, which included: guess how many jellybeans in the jar (there were 541 jellybeans

for anyone who was left wondering), toss the wooden eggs into the Easter Baskets to win a prize, and the giant Easter Bunny photo prop which was created and painted by Ruby Stone.

In addition to the Collins' own chickens, who were on-site to welcome the guests, Michele Nelson brought three of her Pygmy goats for the families to enjoy.

The "Wake Up the Earth!" parade



The "Wake Up the Earth!" parade was led by the Springs' Fairy and the Broad Brook Beaver.







Hunting for eggs



The Springs' Fairy, close-up

Egg Hunt, continued

was led by the Springs' Fairy and the Broad Brook Beaver. Guilford families made some noise as they blew their whistles, banged their pots, and played their tambourines—while they paraded down and up the hillside to wake up the earth from its winter slumber and to celebrate the awakening of Spring.

A special addition to the parade was the ringing of the Meeting House's bells during the parade. Many thanks to the Guilford Historical Society for ringing the bells and for contributing to this event in such a magical way!

Thank you to our Recreation Commissioners who volunteered to provide this community event: Ashley Kane, Mary Wallace Collins, Wendy Stone, Eric Jones and Jake Dixon!



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Conserving Guilford's Special Places

BY THE GUILFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Our recent Community Values Mapping forum brought to mind the special places in Guilford that have been conserved or restored in recent years by groups of Guilford citizens working together. Did you know that:

The Green River Village Preservation Trust has worked for over 20 years to preserve and steward the historical, cultural and natural attributes of Green River Village. Their board has overseen the rebuilding of the historic Green River Dam and continues to maintain the swimming area and Community Church.

Guilford Preservation, Inc. (GPI) formed in 2002 to protect a 24-acre parcel on Route 5 from commercial development. Local citizens worked with the Vermont Land Trust to raise funds to purchase and conserve the parcel, thereby preserving the rural landscape at this major entrance to our town. GPI continues to steward the land, which has been used for cattle grazing and winter recreation.

Friends of Algiers Village (FOA-VI) formed in 2004 when a 2 acre triangle of vacant properties went up for sale in Algiers Village. In the years following, their board has worked with the town and many funding partners to revitalize the village, including the reopening of the Guilford Country Store, rehabilitation of the

Tontine Building, and the addition of 21 units of affordable housing.

Local residents organized a **Save Sweet Pond** movement in 2011 when the future of Sweet Pond was in jeopardy. Their steering committee held multiple local fundraising events and worked with our State Representative and Forest, Parks & Recreation to gather support for renovating the historic dam and restoring the pond. Renovations were completed in 2019 and the 18-acre pond refilled in 2020.

Another group of community volunteers has worked together for several years to create the **Natural Playscape** in Guilford Center. This parcel of land is now a space for families and community members to connect with one another, enjoy the natural environment, and find opportunities for young children to play and learn.

Broad Brook Community Center (BBCC) formed as a non-profit in 2015 with the goal of preserving and expanding the use of the 125-year-old Grange Hall, a beloved building in the heart of Guilford Center. BBCC has formed partnerships with the Town, Broad Brook Grange, Guilford Cares, and Guilford Central School and raised the funds needed to restore and transform the building into an active and accessible community center.

Most recently, Green River neighbors worked together with the Vermont River Conservancy (VRC) to conserve Green River Meadows, a 17-acre parcel south of Green River Village. The land is the last major floodplain before the Green River valley narrows and played an important role in Tropical Storm Irene. Once an illegal junkyard filled with hundreds of junk cars, trailers, fuel tanks, and tires, the property was cleaned up with the help of the Windham Solid Waste District in 2003 and purchased by longtime seasonal residents who continued the cleanup over several years. In 2016 these landowners agreed to sell the property to the Vermont River Conservancy, beginning a multi-year effort to test the land for toxins (none were found) and raise the necessary funds for the purchase. With a major grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, as well as funding from the VRC and generous donations from local residents, the sale was completed and the land conserved in March of this year. The conservation easement protects the floodplain and provides public access to the property for walking, swimming, fishing, and environmental education. A riverside trail will be established for use by this summer.

As you drive through the Town and admire land that is open to the public, attend a supper at the Grange, stop at the Country Store for a snack, swim in the Green River or Sweet Pond, or

Continued on next page



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Mimi Morton Remembered

BY GAZETTE STAFF

Guilford lost one of its many important volunteers on January 10 when Mimi Morton died of pancreatic cancer. She particularly loved the Guilford Free Library and the Historical Society, serving as a trustee of both organizations for many years. After being successful-

ly treated for breast cancer in Canada at no cost, she worked with Richard Davis and others to found the Vermont Citizens' Campaign for Health to advocate for single payer health insurance in the state. And, during the last years of her life, Mimi spent hundreds of hours as a Guardian ad Litem, advocating for children who are under the supervision of the Vermont court system through no fault of their own. She found her GAL work especially meaningful.

Although she lived in Canada from 1971 until 1999, she knew and loved Guilford through her partnership with Marty Jezer, an activist and historian who lived at the Packer Corners commune. Mimi taught writing, Humanities, and Women's Studies at

Dawson College in Montreal, but she and Marty spent summers and most holidays in Guilford. Their daughter, Katie, was born in 1982 and was educated partly at the Guilford School and then at BUHS.

Mimi's relationship with Marty ended after fifteen years, and Mimi stayed in Montreal, where she continued teaching and pursuing her sidelines as a journalist and fiction writer.

In 1998 she and Rick Zamore met and fell in love, and she moved permanently to Guilford the next year, and soon



Photo of Mimi by Laura Moscowitz

found a job teaching at Keene State. Settling in his house on Ashworth Road, she found room to put all of her homemaking skills to work with her love of cooking and all kinds of gardening. She was well known for the many

varieties of heirloom tomatoes she grew. A passionate naturalist, Mimi could identify birds on sight and by their calls, and she knew about virtually every native flower and shrub. One of her favorite late-springtime memories was discovering and spending a very enjoyable half

> hour watching a turtle happily eating wild strawberries near a wetland. She and her great friend Verandah Porche learned mushrooming together, and Mimi liked nothing better than returning home from a walk through the woods with a basket of mushrooms

> Mimi completed two books during her final illness. "Before the Age of Reason, a Memoir of Racism" and "Life List." The latter is a collection of interconnected short stories. set in a fictional Vermont town not unlike Guilford. Both are available at Everyone's Books in Brattleboro and online.

Known for her vivid and entertaining personality, she could be the funniest and smartest person in the room when she wanted to be. Generous in spirit, Mimi liked nothing better than sitting at a large table, laughing with friends and family, watching them enjoy some her unforgettable cooking. She loved Guilford and was proud

Conserving Guilford's Special Places, continued

play with your kids at the Playscape, please take a moment to appreciate the efforts of the groups of Guilford residents that have worked together to protect these special places. And, if you would like to support any of the non-profit organizations

by donating or volunteering, please check their websites or talk to their volunteers.



to be a resident.

of

Natural Playscape

Vermont Harvest of the Month at GCS, COVID Style

BY SARAH ROSOW



6th grade students carry firewood for boiling sap.

Throughout Vermont, schools celebrate Harvest of the Month (HOM) with taste tests, cooking projects, featured dishes in the cafeteria, and shared recipes in newsletters. Vermont Harvest of the Month is a farm to school campaign run by three nonprofits to promote seasonal eating, encourage healthy food choices, and support the local economy. They provide recipes, educational resources, and promotional materials for each month's harvest. You can learn more at http://www.vermontharvestofthemonth.org.

This year at GCS, our HOM taste tests, usually prepared and served by students, required a new and creative approach. As many of us have done during Covid times, I turned to technology. My daughter Leah and I, home together on remote days

last fall, began filming cooking shows featuring the Vermont Harvest of the Month. We made Kale Chips in Octo-

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ber and Sweet Potato and Black Bean Salad in November, followed by



Steam rises from the wood-fired boiler, cooking sap gathered by students

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Vermont Harvest of the Month, continued

Butternut Squash Cheesy Noodles in December. Leah's peers loved seeing her videos and were excited to cook at home.

In January, we took it up a notch and sent bags of beets home with families so they could join Leah in making Beet Pancakes, and in February we sent home bags of carrots along with a recipe and video link for Yogurt Herb Dip. We combined March and April's harvests—maple syrup and whole grains-and sent a Maple Granola kit home with each student. All of these recipes will be available in our Guilford Farm to School Cookbook. which will available for purchase very soon!

We took March's Harvest of the

Month to a new level by making our own maple syrup at school. Every class tapped a maple tree or two in their outdoor classroom area and gathered and tasted the fresh sap. Students learned about the history of sugaring in Vermont, heard legends about the discovery of maple sugaring, read books about this tradition, and studied the science and math involved in the process. We bought a rustic boiler and boiled sap at school. Students hauled firewood and sap and had the chance to see the sugaring process (at a safe distance) for themselves. And last but not least, all students got to sample our maple syrup in a schoolwide waffle party.

Hearing about families using our recipe kits to cook together, seeing our students team up and work hard to help with our sugaring operation, and witnessing our students' curiosity about where our food comes from and their enthusiasm for trying new foods make me feel such deep gratitude for our school's commitment to project-based learning and food education.



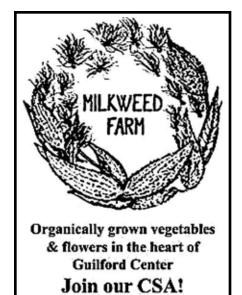






Handwashing station

Hula hoop fun





Standing on head

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College Scholarships, continued

TO APPLY:

Some applications are available to pick up; all can be done by e-mail. Make sure to get letters of reference and transcripts to attach to the application.

Grange Scholarship: Grange Scholarship Chair Mike Szostak has sent to all Guilford BUHS seniors scholarship application instructions at their school email address. Students should be sure to check their email. OuestionsmaybedirectedtoMike's school phone at 802-451-3434 or preferably to his email address: mszostak@wsesdvt.org. Mike also has daily school office hours or via Zoom on most week days from 3:30 to 4:15 at: https://zoom.us/j/372375348

Bullock Scholarship: Contact the Guilford Town Clerk, Penny Marine, at pennyma-rine@guilfordvt.

net or the Bullock Scholarship Committee: Kathryn Karlan-Mason at katha-mason@gmail.com. BUHS students should go to their school Naviance platform, where all the BUHS/local scholarships are listed. Students may print their application out at home, and complet-ed applications may be submitted electronically to Kathryn Karlan-Mason or to Town Clerk, Penny Marine.

Recreation Club Scholar-ship: Contact Carol Schnabel at petecar86@comcast.net. Or by mail to: Guilford Recreation Club, PO Box 2679, West Brattleboro VT 05303.

Heather Harrison in the BUHS Counseling office is available to assist students with accessing applications.

Community Calendar

MAY 22 CELEBRATING SUMMER

11am-2pm, Guilford Free Library. Raffle drawing, flower planting, book giveaway and outside play! For info: 257-7024 staff@guilfordfreelibraryvt.org

ONGOING:

Every Tuesday

• 11 AM ZOOM STORYTIME-

Library-Cathi Wilken and Laura Lawson Tucker present a program of songs, fingerplays, books and activities for babies, toddlers and older siblings (free) Info: 257-4603 Email staff@guilford-freelibraryvt.org to request the zoom link.

Every second Tuesday of the month

• 9 AM GAZETTE MEETING

Via Zoom or at the Guilford Country Store. Help plan the next issue.

3rd Wednesday of the month.

• 6:30 PM TALK ABOUT BOOKS

Library. Books are available to borrow from the library. (free).

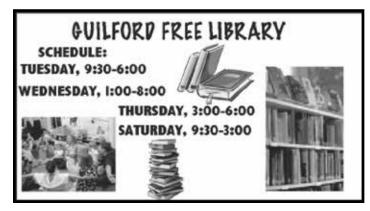
Every Thursday

• 5-6 PM FOOD PANTRY at Guilford

Fairgrounds. Info: call Pat Haine 257-0626



"Wake Up The Earth" parade





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ABOUT THIS COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

This newspaper is for you! We (the community volunteers) put together this newspaper for the community. We welcome your comments and questions. We hope that the Gazette provides a way for people in the community to communicate about local interests and goings on. Anyone can submit an article or letter to the editor--just put it in the Gazette Box at the library or the school, or mail it to The Guilford Gazette c/o Guilford Free Library, 4024 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford, VT 05301.

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Checking eggs